

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 15th, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Ave
Washington, D.C. 20500-0001

Dear President Biden,

We write to call your attention to the September 9th, 2021, letter from Governor Andy Beshear appealing the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) September 5th decision to deny the Commonwealth of Kentucky's request for a major disaster declaration due to the severe storm cell that caused extensive and deadly flash flooding in Nicholas County on July 29 and 30, 2021.

As you know, the City of Carlisle and Nicholas County received a torrential downpour of rain during a two-hour period between July 29, 2021 and July 30, 2021. Rainfall was measured more than six inches per hour, which is considered to exceed the One Thousand Year rate for Nicholas County, resulting in widespread flash flooding that severely impacted 88 homes and 29 businesses. The City of Carlisle and Nicholas County both experienced extensive damage to critical equipment and public infrastructure, including the community's wastewater treatment plant, fire station, and city garage. As a result of the widespread damage, Governor Beshear declared a State of Emergency on August 3, 2021, in addition to the local declarations.

While the Commonwealth has provided support to Nicholas County's 7,135 citizens, and local organizations have held fundraisers and processed donations, residents of the City of Carlisle and Nicholas County still face significant economic challenges, including a lack of adequate housing. Moreover, individuals potentially face job loss through the inability to get to work while also being unable to afford new modes of transportation. Given this, we believe that the Commonwealth's appeal of FEMA's decision deserves your full and fair consideration.

We appreciate your attention to this matter, which will greatly assist Kentucky communities in a desperate time of need.

Sincerely,



Andy Barr
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Mitch McConnell
UNITED STATES SENATOR



Rand Paul
UNITED STATES SENATOR